

Mayor Janice Deccio Calls 911 on "Far Right-Wing Petitioners"

Mayor Janice Deccio (0:02)

Hi, this is a Mayor Deccio. I, I know that this isn't an emergency call, but I need to talk to somebody. I've emailed the chief, but there's some far right-wing petitioners at Walmart. And they don't, they're not leaving, after Walmart has asked them repeatedly to do so. And the police have not taken them off the premises.

911 Dispatcher (0:26)

We did have a call of that earlier. Who is this?

Mayor Janice Deccio (0:29)

This is Mayor Deccio.

911 Dispatcher (0:31)

Okay, let me let you talk to my supervisor. But I do know that the officer says, "Let them know that they would have to have a court order to have them removed." I'll let you talk to my supervisor.

Mayor Janice Deccio (0:40)

On private property? Okay.

911 Dispatcher (0:42)

Yeah, I don't know the legalities of that, but let me get you to my supervisor.

Mayor Janice Deccio (0:47)

Okay.

Dispatch Supervisor (0:50)

Dispatch. This is Nicole.

Mayor Janice Deccio (0:53)

Hi, this is Mayor Deccio. And I have had some constituents call me to tell me about some right-wing petitioners over at Walmart, and that Walmart does not want them on their property. And the police had come out and told them that they can't do anything about it. And I'm wondering how can that be? If petitioners were on my yard, the police could take them out. If they were on my private property.

Dispatch Supervisor (1:19)

I can just read you what this email I have from legal says, or if you want to talk to a Sergeant you can; I can have them call you as well. But basically it says, "Under Washington law of Right to Access on Private Property for Political Purpose, it extends to the circulation of petitions." It says that "For this reason, the city of Yakima will not remove petition signature gatherers absent a court order issued by Yakima Superior Court prohibiting the group from collecting signatures."

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:05)

Even if they were on my yard?

Dispatch Supervisor (2:07)

Yeah, it has to do with the right to access, the right of access on private property for political purposes.

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:18)

That's insane! So Walmart has no rights?

Dispatch Supervisor (2:23)

They have to go to get an order from Superior Court prohibiting a group from collecting signatures is what this says.

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:31)

Okay, and how long does that take?

Dispatch Supervisor (2:34)

I would have no idea about that.

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:38)

Okay.

Dispatch Supervisor (2:38)

I can give you this. I can have the sergeant give you a call. If you'd like to. He might have more information. I'm just reading what they've sent to me, as far as that goes.

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:49)

Okay. Yeah, he can give me a call.

Dispatch Supervisor (2:52)

Okay. What's your phone number?

Mayor Janice Deccio (2:54)

I'll give you my personal one. It's 509-307-1880.

Dispatch Supervisor (3:00)

Okay, I'll have him give you a call.

Mayor Janice Deccio (3:02)

Okay, thank you.

Dispatch Supervisor (3:04)

Bye.